

HVAD BRINGER
FREMtiden?
WHAT HAS
THE FUTURE IN STORE?

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Hvad bringer fremtiden?

I april 2021 går grønlænderne igen til valg. Da valget var blevet udskrevet, var min første reaktion: Hvad er det dog for nogle politikere, der midt i en pandemi og en international krise, ikke kan finde ud af at regere et land og vente med de interne konflikter til en periode med ro og stabilitet?

Det virker som useriøst og uansvarligt at tage befolkningen som gidsel for egen magtkamp i en for landet så alvorlig situation.

I Danmark ser vi også tiltag til at udnytte ustabilitet i forbindelse med pandemien og den heraf resulterende internationale krise til at byde op til taburet-dans. Heldigvis ser det ud til, at vælgerne allerede nu straffer den form for uansvarlighed.

Valget i Grønland bliver ud over den sædvanlige kamp om magten også igen et valg om råstofpolitikken. Skal der etableres en international storskalamine ved byen Narsaq i Sydgrønland, eller skal projektet droppes? Vælgerne er delt op i en lejr af ja-sigere, og en lejr af nej-sigere.

I dag er udviklingen af byen Narsaq i tilbagegang. Befolkningsmæssigt, økonomisk og erhvervsmæssigt. Narsaq er hjemsted for

slagteri for lam og for en tjener- og kokkeskole. Der er også som i andre bosættninger mange, der lever af fiskeri og fangst.

Deroppe bag byen ligger bjerget med forekomsten af de værdifulde mineraler. Projektet med udvinding af sjældne jordarter og med uran som biprodukt har været under udvikling i mange år. Projektet er kæmpestort og vil forandre fremtiden for lokalområdet fuldstændigt på godt og ondt. Måske vil Narsaq ende med at blive den største by i Grønland?

Mange ser udviklingen på fødevareområdet som et alternativ til nye råstofprojekter. Sandheden er, at alle eksisterende erhverv i og omkring byen i dag er afhængige af offentlige tilskud for at kunne fortsætte.

Et valgresultat, der siger nej tak til videreførelse af råstoffer vil stoppe planerne om at skabe en selvstående økonomi for hele landet, og dermed den grønlandske befolknings ønske om selvstændighed.

Et forhold kan vi måske alle blive enige om: Det er et vanskeligt spørgsmål at tage stilling til.

What has the future in store?

In April 2021, Greenland again will have an election. When the election was called, my first reaction was: Who are these politicians, who, in the midst of a pandemic and an international crisis, cannot solve to govern a country and avoid internal conflicts in such a situation?

In a situation so serious for the country, it seems frivolous and irresponsible to take the people as hostage, just to give place to the politicians struggle for personal power.

In Denmark, we also see initiatives to exploit instability in connection with the pandemic and the resulting international crisis to cling to office. Fortunately, it seems that voters already are punishing this kind of irresponsibility.

In addition to the struggle for power, the election in Greenland again will be about mine industry policy. Should an international large-scale mine be established at the town of Narsaq in South Greenland, or should the project be dropped? The voters are divided into a camp of yes-men, and a camp of nay-men.

Today, the development of the settlement of

Narsaq is in decline. Population, economical and for business. Narsaq is home to a slaughterhouse and to a catering school. There are also, as in other settlements, many people, who make a living from fishing and hunting.

Up there behind the small settlement the mountain is located with the deposits of the valuable minerals. The project of extraction of rare earths materials and the uranium as a by-product has been under development for many years. The project is huge and will, for better or worse, completely transform the future of the local area. Maybe Narsaq will end up being the largest town in Greenland?

Many see developments in the food sector as an alternative to mine industry. Today, the truth is that all existing professions in and around the settlement in South Greenland rely on governmental subsidies.

An election result that says no thanks to the continuation of the mine project will stop the plans to create a self-sustaining economy for the whole country, and thus the Greenlandic people's desire for independence.

Perhaps, we all can agree on one point: it is a difficult issue to decide on.



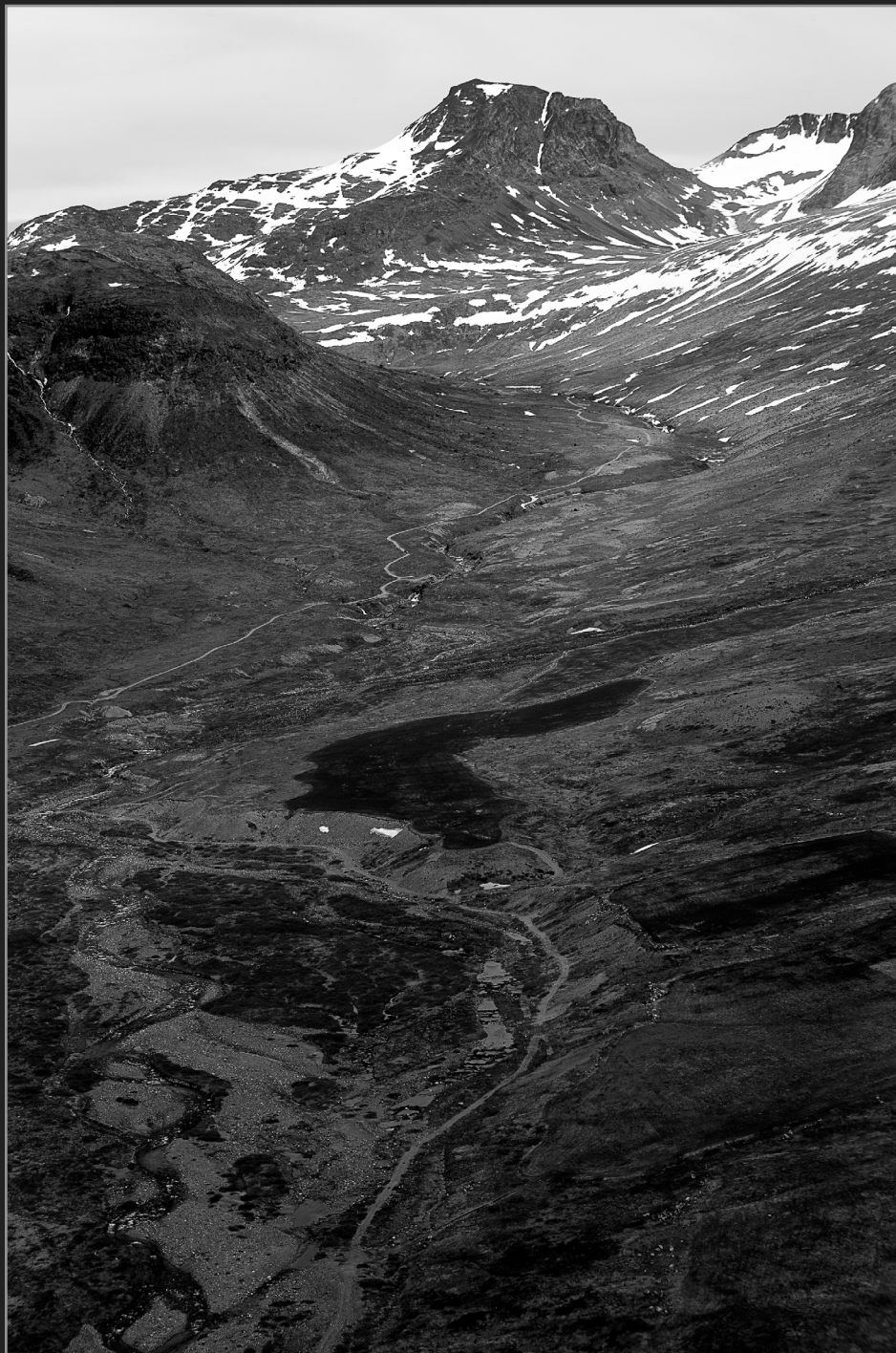
Narsaq, Sydgrønland, september 2015

The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, September 2015



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, juni 2014

The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, June 2014



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, juni 2014

*The settlement Narsaq,
South Greenland, June 2014*



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The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, June 2014



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, marts 2014

The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, March 2014



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, april 2014

The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, April 2014



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, september 2017

The settlement Narsaq, South Greenland, September 2017



Narsaq, Sydgrønland, marts 2016

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KOLOFON

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Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: What has the future in store?
By Keld Jensen*

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